



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

JANUARY 1984

THE NEW KNITWEAR...SPRING AND EARLY FALL '84

Spring/Early Fall Knitwear brings innovative designs for all occasions, with less emphasis on classic shetland crewnecks and angora cowls. The silhouettes for daywear are long and lean, short and boxy. Lines cleaner and simpler. Emphasis on texture. Natural colors and materials remain strong, but heathers and traditional patterns lose ground to multi-fabric combinations in collages, patches, applique knitwear: pants, jumpsuits, dresses, skirts, tops, layered ensembles. Evening wear takes off with brightly colored combinations of silk, rayon, linen and angora; some with long V-necks and deeply slit backs.

REVIEWED:

NEW KNITWEAR '84

FASHION FOCUS

COLOR WATCH '85

CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS

BOUTIQUES

SILHOUETTES: Short and boxy: epitomized by MICHAEL SEROY'S fatigue green, cotton waffle-knit sweater for Fall — cropped square cut with long, rolled sleeves, boat neck. Cable front, scoop neck, cropped tank: white, red, khaki, yellow—MARISA CHRISTINA. Long and lean: tunic length tanks teamed with jersey knits and pencil skirts. Mid-calf tube dresses. Scooped neck halter dress with muffled T-back in linen/silk/cotton blend: ecru, red, navy, wheat—ADRIENNE VITTADINI. Oversized sweaters continue to be very popular. Hand-loomed, long-sleeved cotton tunic from ANDRA with horizontal and perpendicular panels in grey and white. Small intricately detailed tops for evening. NORMA'S hand-loomed rayons with elbow length sleeves—silky threads woven through bodice, ending in uneven fringe knotted with beads.

DETAILS: Textures — ribbed, lacy, mesh, popcorn. Flats and double knits over jersey continue. Multi-weave garments abound. A short, sleeveless cotton sweater from JESKIA with grey and white diagonal stripes in mixed textures. For Fall, a natural white, heavy cotton sweater at MICHAEL SEROY with alternating stripes of checkerboard and herringbone weaves.

FABRICS: Dramatic combinations further the multi-weave theme. MADY GERRARD designs an oversized sweater in sand shades with a large boucle front panel. Knitted strips of snake leather enhance padded shoulders. NORMA creates silk, cotton, wool and angora collages. Formal V-neck striped collage in pale pink angora, iridescent rayon shantung, cotton chenille. Other mixed fabric designs: cotton or wool sweaters with angora animal motifs from RUTH HORNBEIN. ANN FELDER'S white V-neck sleeveless top — single thread open weave cotton, neck and armholes unexpectedly outlined in white cotton.
(continued on following page)

THE NEW KNITWEAR (continued from page 1)

Evening wear from PACA--emerald green sweater, shiny rayon--stark contrast with geometric white angora icicles. New blends, old standbys: naturals and natural looking fabrics still dominate. 100% cotton and wool, cashmere, silk, rayon, mohair blended with nylon. New emphasis on linen and linen/rayon or cotton blends. Fine gauged angora for a drapable blousey effect.

COLORS: Naturals: off white and black. Natural Pastels: peach, pink, grey, muted earthtones. Primary highlights: shimmering champagnes for evening; or vibrant reds, greens, blues with bold white and black contrasts.

NEW CATEGORIES: Active wear: Anything goes. Black 100% cotton knit jersey "football pants": Slash pockets to mid-thigh, wide waistband with double snaps and large knee pads. Ribbing accentuates details. Worn with oversized black pullover—large shoulder and elongated boat neck, triangular ribbed inserts — CLAUDIA REID. One and two-piece sweater dresses gain momentum. Angora classics (Fall), sophisticated chemises. MARISA CHRISTINA'S bateau-neck dress in cotton seed stitch, rolled sleeves: white, natural, black, red, navy, stone. Side-slit red dress, rayon/linen with padded shoulders, a draped neck and semi-dolman sleeves. Everything from traditional sweater sets to layered (five item) suits. MADY GERRARD'S four-piece suit: hand-crocheted, black-trimmed cardigan jacket, tubular shawl, matching skirt and shirt in multi-colored silk and rayon: pink, aqua, purple, grey, black.

MRS. H. WINTER: formerly "Yesterday's News," with distinctive antique-style clothing now looks contemporary with supple jersey fabrications. Her signature — ragged narrow seams, also used as trim; intricate seaming defines the shapes. Matte jersey soft dresses, some with dropped waistlines become blousons, others with cowl neck treatments and tied sleeves. Similar themes carried out with cotton interlock in ribbed T-shirt dressing and separates, including pull-on pants and skirts teamed with wedge-shaped tops. Striped cotton and rayon knit dresses combine with solid wedge silhouettes and tank dressing. The outerwear look: big jackets, poncho capes, toppers and coats marked by raglan sleeves, flanged shoulders, cocoon shapes. "Winter" colors: stone, cream, tobacco, black, iris, blush, pale grey. **Outstanding:** Raincoat story in sleek black, stone, or white shiny plastic in bold silhouettes. Also, black snakeskin coat with arched neckline and flange shoulders, accompanied by snappy topper. Prices: dresses \$110 - \$135; sportswear \$38 - \$80; rainwear \$147 - \$165. (45 W. 25 St., 691-8300)

J.J. CONFORT: dresses and sportswear made in France. A well-priced line in natural, highly appealing fabrications. Clean, oversized jackets with asymmetrical closings (in long and cropped versions) team with yoked skirts, cropped and classic pants with pocket treatments. Cropped button-shoulder tops/tanks with sportswear. Contemporary dresses in easy chemiserie have flange shoulders, big patch pockets. Suits and dresses in attractive, refreshing prints. Also, coordinated cotton knit jacquard sweaters. Outstanding: Cropped striped jacket in bronze/black or grey/black featured with cropped pants; sleeveless dress in several attractive two-color combinations worn forwards or backwards. Colors: ice blue, elephant grey, natural, copper, black. Sweaters in red, mustard, teal blue. Fabrics: cotton, linen/cotton mix, silk, high quality thin gabardine wool. Prices: \$14 - \$60 individual pieces (485 Seventh Ave.)

REGINA KRAVITZ: diverse dress line in wearable choices. Chemises and relaxed, two-piece dresses with pleated and bias-flared skirts, (both knee and mid-calf length) in a loose, hip-belted style. Reinterpreted coatdress in long bathrobe closings or double-breasted versions. Important details: large armholes, side asymmetrical button closings and two-tone colorations. **Fabrics:** cottons, linens and silks, a perfect mix for Spring and Summer in graphic, clean-lined patterns, bi-color treatments in grey-white, grey-black, red-black, white-black. Also, pastels in window-pane checks of peach/white, aqua/white, maize/white.

CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS — SPRING/SUMMER '84

Casual and sporty airs dominate the daytime collections. Hollywood romanticism and sexy sophistication take over for evening. Torn clothing and layered looks provide daytime's nod to the streets in skirts with leggings, sleeveless tops, and cap-sleeved T-shirts with trousers. Chemises and jumpers add a relaxed mood. Decolletage, bare backs, off-shoulder designs and waist-defining strapless styles reflect an atmosphere and decor reminiscent of the '40's. Swimwear combines the functional with styles that add glitter around the pool at cocktail time.

SPORTSWEAR

Capri pants, jumpsuits, oversized tops and jackets, loose pants, obi sashes, cap-sleeved tees, cropped tops, knee guards and bodysuits with sequin touches, extended and flange shoulders, double-color blocks and quilting add an innovative look to the scene. Fabrics: cotton sheeting, cotton knits, crinkle seersucker, tissue faille and silk. Colors: stark black and white combinations. Solids as well as soft pastels. Prints: pinstripes, Japanese brushstrokes, oversized florals, awning stripes, Mondrian effects.

CAPRIS: Wide multi-color vertical stripes and cropped cotton tops...BOSCALLI and NUANCE. Black cotton with black V-neck top and black/white narrow horizontal bodice ...HARLEQUIN BY ALAIN ARNAUD. Pleated black-grey with loose top or with off-shoulder shirt, suspender shoulders, breast pockets...KAREN ALEXANDER. White silk pull-on with yoked dress...PHYLLIS SUES.

JUMPSUITS: Beige silk architectural dropwaist with dolman sleeves...IGNACIO PERI. Fitted melon tissue faille, crossover multi-needlepoint front...BILLIE FOR FAME DESIGNS. Draped black jersey with attached black square shawl; black/white jersey reversible...TADASHI. Black/white pinstripe cotton, obi sash, flange shoulders, rounded neckline...T.H.E. DESIGN HOUSE. Blue or yellow crinkle seersucker with vest-effect bodice; blue cropped cotton, wide waistband, mesh bodice; cropped white cotton eyelet...PATTI CAPPALLI.

PANTS: Black leather with knee guards...E. DE BELLE. Loose blue/white cotton eyelet, oversized jacket; tight, white, cotton pants under loose, above ankle-length pants with sleeveless top under loose, cropped, white top...PATTI CAPPALLI. Black/white pinstripe overalls, obi sash, white cap-sleeve tee...T.H.E. DESIGN HOUSE.

BODYSUITS: Purple-sparkle dolman sleeve leotard over solid purple tights; black/white fringed leotard with extended padded shoulders; pink/yellow tee and tie-on bikini brief; red/black color-block leotard with padded hips and cap sleeves...CATHY GEORGE. White asymmetrical leotard, V-front and back with fishnet inserts; black with purple/yellow/silver lurex stripe V-neck leotard with black tights; black body calf-length leotard with multi-stripes, suspenders, black cap sleeves...CARUSKA BODYWEAR.

DAYTIME DRESSES

Loose and architectural chemises, jumpers, two-piece knits, dropped waistlines, as well as distressed/torn looks give clothes ambivalent air. White and black dominate, but colorful choice of pastels and brights available. Cottons and leathers are favored; also, linen and rayon.

CHEMISES: Suntan/white cotton, wide sash, suntan leggings...ROSEMARY BRANTLEY. Tan satin-stripe, double-collar cotton...RABBIT, RABBIT, RABBIT. Cream rayon square neck, asymmetric buttons, cream/beige twist sash...JOANIE CHAR. White cotton eyelet, hip sash; vivid serape-stripe cotton, kabuki sleeves, large patch pockets, hip-band stitch... PATTI CAPPALLI. Low-waist detailing on mint and pale pink...ALAKAZIA. Natural linen V-neck...COVERS. Linen/cotton multi-stripe with Shosun sleeves, ring belt...PHYLLIS SUES
(continued on following page)

CALIFORNIA HIGHLIGHTS (continued from page 3)

JUMPERS: Suntan cotton, knotted shoulders...**ROSEMARY BRANTLEY.** Beige cotton sheeting, side drawstring over cotton knit long-sleeve dress with cotton sheeting wrap jacket...**BONNIE STRAUSS.** Blue/green cotton, triangular cut-out front, flange shoulder...**KAREN ALEXANDER.**

TWO-PIECE: White ribbed knit sheath, side snaps...**HARLEQUIN BY ALAIN ARNAUD.** White cotton button-front skirt, loose top with big collar...**ELEMENTS.** Black/white cotton Stencil stripe, vertical stripe skirt, over-hip diagonal strip tunic, V-neck, extended shoulders, obi sash...**T.H.E. DESIGN HOUSE.**

DISTRESSED: Jungle effect — brown chamois tops and dresses with tattered shoulders and sleeves; layers of torn leather, wristlets, hip sashes...**NUANCE.**

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SPRING/SUMMER COLORS 1985

More colorful with emphasis on tonal depths and less extreme than in past seasons, a blending of natural resources and modern technology.

Crystal pales: translucent, frosted colors ...sophisticated and fresh for contemporary separates in crisp, lustrous semi-sheer cloths or cotton fabrications for city sportswear and ground shades for prints or yarn dyes...quicksilver, aqua, iced lemon, ultra violet, moonstone, peach sorbet, white.

Vibrant brights: glimmering, acidic colors in piece dyes and yarn-dyed cotton knits for the junior market. In prints and wovens they will also provide sparks of color for the rest of the groups...gentian violet, tangerine, water jade, citron, periwinkle, lime, lipstick red, turquoise.

Alloy neutrals: iridescents act as highlights for darker shades in prints, knits and wovens in contemporary or off-beat apparel. Neutrals mix with crystal pales for summer sportswear combinations...sandstone, khaki, mushroom, sea blue, amethyst, stone.

City darks: colors reminiscent of richly dyed Indian silk for coordinated sportswear in dramatic combinations...teal, magenta, heliotrope, burnished brass, rust, bright navy, spinach.

Signal actives: classics for weekend wear... midnight navy, chrome orange, chestnut, traffic light green, taxi yellow, fire engine red.

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BOUTIQUES—SOHO INNOVATIVE...EXCITING...INTERNATIONAL

WEST BROADWAY

GUNILLA PONTEN-428 West Broadway (254-7366) Tues/Sun. 12-7 P.M. Opened in September...first N.Y. showcase for Gunilla Ponten who owns 7 boutiques in Sweden. Colorful dresses, sportswear, separates, outerwear both knit and woven. Also lingerie, accessories, fur pieces, shoes. Unique accessory-decorated doll heads.

IF-474 West Broadway (533-8660) Mon/Sun. 12-7:30; Thurs: 12-9:30 P.M. While some Soho boutiques are chancy, IF is consistently good...imports reign supreme... Jean Paul Gaultier, Anne Marie Baretta, Yohji Yamamoto, Wolfgang (West Germany), Gianfranco Ferre, Kashiyama, Ivan Grundahl's fur-lined leather coats and more...shirts, sweaters, accessories, jewelry.

LE GRAND HOTEL-471 West Broadway (475-7625) Tues/Sat 12-7; Sun: 2-6 P.M. Day and evening wear from young, talented, undiscovered designers... accessories, boots, shoes, antique linens.

HENRY LEHR-464 West Broadway (460-5500) Mon/Sat 11-7; Sun: 12-6 P.M. Men's, women's, children's sportswear and separates, including Michel Bachoz's "Mickey Mouse" sweats and T-shirts...Katherine Hamnet's inventive women's sportswear.

Kathleen Mears, New York

Jayne Gurland, New York

Devorah Tedeschi, New York